

Environmental Committee

The University's Committee Structure aims to put the University in a position of strength to deliver the evidence base that will enable us to engage with the OfS and its conditions of registration: [OfS - advice-and-guidance](#)

Individual Committees are expected to utilise a range of indicators, quantitative and qualitative intelligence and horizon scanning that will enable them to monitor and review trends and spot (early on) any issues that may affect compliance. In doing so, they are empowered to drive and effect changes accordingly.

Purpose and Scope

The Environmental Committee is responsible to the University Operations Team for overseeing the management of risks and promotion of the sustainability of the environment throughout the University.

As Laudato Si' (2015) states "Ecological culture cannot be reduced to a series of urgent and partial responses to the immediate problems of pollution, environmental decay and the depletion of natural resources. There needs to be a distinctive way of looking at things, a way of thinking, policies, an educational programme, a lifestyle and a spirituality..." . As a Catholic Higher Education institution we fully accept this challenge and the Environment Committee endeavours to find solutions.

This involves the Committee in:

- The generation and approval of environmental policies as part of the University's commitment to a preferential option for the poor and its responsibilities towards creation.
- Ensuring the full implementation of the Environmental Policy by means of monitoring, audit and review.
- Taking appropriate action when environmental standards are not met.
- Regular review of the effectiveness of existing policies.
- Supporting the University's commitment to ISO14001 and ISO50001 certification.
- Promoting education for sustainable development in line with the University's Strategic Plan.

Terms of Reference

- Support the Catholic ethos and commitment to our environment by advocating for environmentally sustainable policies.

- To develop and implement an integral strategy towards achieving sustainable development.
- To advise Council on the progress of managing environmental issues and achieving sustainable development within the University.
- To advise Council and the University Operations Team on all matters concerning compliance with environmental legislation, related strategies and any forthcoming legislation.
- To consider any sustainability issues, improvements, new working practices identified by the University. Similarly the Committee may refer any matters to other committees.
- Examine specialist and site reports on particular areas of work agreed by the Environmental Committee.
- Consider reports and factual information provided by the enforcing authorities appointed under Environmental Legislation.
- Ensure we have in place a communications plan to promote sustainable development and environmental matters across the University.
- Ensure the communication of environmental issues and successes to staff and students.
- Ensure maintenance of adequate records of the proceedings and activities of the group.
- As appropriate, establish specialist sub-committees to report on topics of concern which require detailed/expert knowledge and discussion for example student committees.
- Approval of any reports before being submitted to HEFCE, external agencies, Council, University Operations Team.
- Approval and review of Newman University's Carbon Management Plan.

Reporting

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The Committee will report to the University such recommendations which have been approved by the Committee.

Quoracy

The Environmental Committee is considered quorate where there are at least 50% +1 members present. Attendance of members will be monitored on an annual basis.

Frequency of Meetings

The Environmental Committee will meet a minimum of 3 times a year.

Membership

Chair: The Chief Financial Officer will chair the Committee. In the absence of the Chief Financial Officer, the Director of Estates and Campus Services will chair.

Vice Chair: Director of Estates and Campus Services

Ex Officio: Chief Financial Officer

Director of Estates and Campus Services

Environmental Manager

University Chaplain

Director of Learning, Teaching and Scholarship

Director of Human Resources

Food & Beverages Manager

Accommodation Manager

Head of Campus and Commercial Services

IT Representative

Newman Students' Union General Manager

Newman Students' Union Representative

Two Student Representatives

Academic Staff Representative from Faculty of Arts, Society and Professional Studies

Academic Staff Representative from Faculty of Education

Director of Marketing and Communications

Tenure

For elected/nominated members: 3 years, with the possibility of nomination for a further 3 years (6 in total)

Servicing & Arrangements for Papers

Senior Executive Assistant, Chief Financial Officer